

**From:** [Schade, Pete](#)  
**To:** [Lisa Kuenert](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Gallatin logging history  
**Date:** 04/08/2011 11:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [DSCN3629.JPG](#)

FYI

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Pete Schade  
(406) 444-6771  
Senior TMDL Planner  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality

**From:** Mark T Story [mailto:mtstory@fs.fed.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2011 4:56 PM  
**To:** Schade, Pete  
**Subject:** RE: Gallatin logging history

Pete, you can readily see many of the logging units via Google earth such as in the screen shot below. Most of the logging in the areas you are asking about occurred in the 60's and 70's with the exception of private land logging by BSL (Big Sky Lumber) in the early 90's.

Records I have are sketchy but consist of:

Hyalite Creek 570 acres harvested (primarily clearcut) in the 60's, 578 in the 79's, about 400 acres in the 80's. Only post and pole since the early 80's. The Hyalite units are largely now regenerated and roads decommissioned or grown in.

Bozeman Creek 738 acres in the 60's, 110 in the 70's, 800 acres in 1985 (diaper line on the west side). A small roadside salvage occurred in the early 90's with no road construction. Bozeman Creek units are quite grown in except for the diaper line which is newer but still recovering well. All the non-open Bozeman Creek roads have grown in as we couldn't find any in need of decommissioning.

Bear Creek about 500 acres in the 1970. These units are well revegetated but you can see the age stand differences on the Google earth maps.

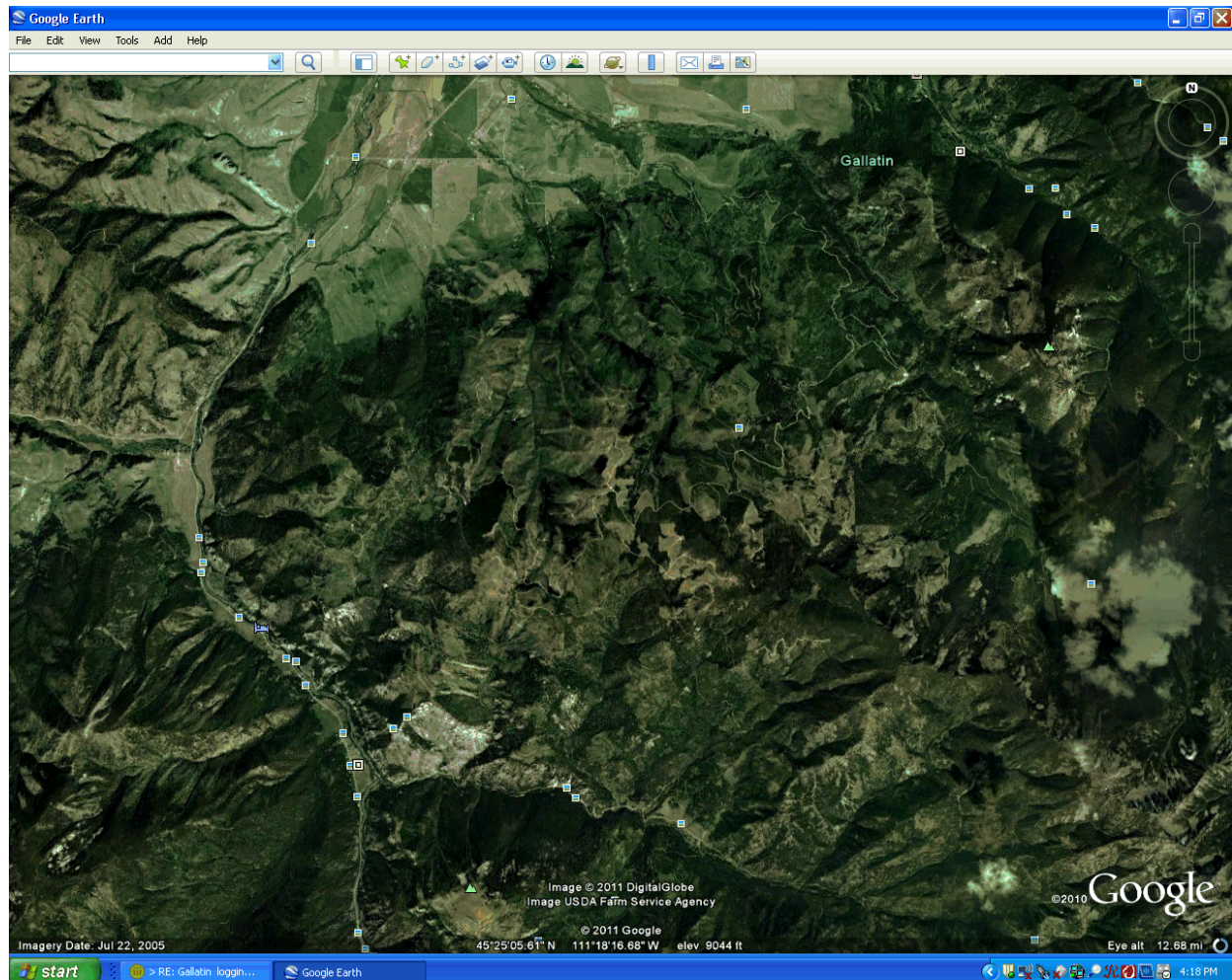
Swan Creek 638 acres in the 1970's. The MSTP timber sale, competed in 2006 consisted of about 400 acres of clearcuts in Swan Creek. These units have some tree seedlings and have re-established ground cover but could still be minor sediment sources to Swan Creek. The excess timber sale roads in Swan Creek were decommissioned in 2010.

Squaw Creek. 495 acres in 60's, 835 acres in the 70's, about 500 acres in the 80's and approximately 800 acres by BSL in the late 1990's. All of the BSL lands were acquired by the Forest Service in the BSL land exchange in 2000. Excess timber sale roads were decommissioned in 2010. Most of the roads were grown in and didn't need decommissioning.

My observation is that the clearcut units can generally be sediment sources for 1-2 years but usually revegetate with grass/forb quickly. The main potential for sediment then is from the roads built for logging most of which have either grown in or decommissioned in the 1994-1995 period or in 2010. '

If you want much more specific information I can submit the request to our timber staff. I not sure how feasible it is for them to do a detailed query of their databases. I will be gone from April 11-22nd so if you need more information sooner you could call Joan Roa at 522-2553 who may be able to query the FS records for harvest acres.

The attached photo is of a typical road in Hyalite which has not been decommissioned but is revegetated with grass/for cover. We blocked many of these roads off in 2010 to prevent motorized encroachment.



Mark T. Story

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04/06/2011 09:47 AM

To: "Mark Story (mtstory@fs.fed.us)" <mtstory@fs.fed.us>  
cc  
Subject: RE: Gallatin logging history

Ooops – forgot he map

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Pete Schade  
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**From:** Schade, Pete  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Mark Story (mtstory@fs.fed.us)  
**Subject:** Gallatin logging history

Mark,

Perhaps you can help me. I'm interested in the logging history in the Gallatin forest, specifically the areas of upper Hyalite, Bear, Sourdough, Swan, Squaw Creeks. I've included a map of the areas I am referring to.

As you are aware, some of these streams are listed as impaired for Total Phosphorus, and implicate logging as a potential source. I suspect that the TP level we are seeing are naturally elevated as a result of volcanic terrain, however I'd like to look into logging history and whether it may be influencing the values we are seeing.

Specifically, I'm interested in:

- When: Dates (Year) of any logging activity in these drainages
- Where: Spatial distribution of affected areas (plots?)

Any info you might have would be helpful.

Thanks in advance.

Pete

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